



Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Ted Stewart  
Executive Director  
James W. Carter  
Division Director

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
801-538-5319 (TDD)

May 31, 1994

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Travis Jones, Reclamation Hydrologist  
Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Specialist

*TWJ*  
*LK*

RE: Site Inspection, Interstate Brick Company, Big Cottonwood Mine, M/035/003, Salt Lake County, Utah

Date of Inspection: May 26, 1994  
Time of Inspection: 1000-1130 and 1430-1530  
Conditions: Partly Cloudy, Warm  
Participants: Walt Plumb--Land Owner; Jerry North--Interstate Brick Co.; Lynn Kunzler and Travis Jones--DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To oversee reclamation activities

Jerry North arranged for a bull dozer (a D7 CAT) to finish the required earthwork for this site. Mr. North requested that someone from the Division be present during reclamation to make sure the work performed was up to Division standards. We made two site visits on this day. During the first site visit we met with Mr. Plumb, Mr. North and the dozer operator. We discussed berm construction, site access, seeding and revegetation requirements to complete reclamation. During the second site visit we evaluated the earthwork performed by the dozer operator.

The Division had required reclamation be completed at this site no later than June 1, 1994. The November 12, 1993 Division letter specified three remaining reclamation requirements:

- 1) increase earthen berm height;
- 2) remove or bury ripped asphalt; and
- 3) seed disturbed area.

Mr. Plumb attempted to have the site hydroseeded two or three weeks prior to this inspection, but a vehicle(s) was blocking access to the site.



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We walked over the site and observed that most of the ripped asphalt was used to construct the berm. Enlargement of the berm to plan specifications sufficiently buried the exposed asphalt. The berm crest, before final improvement, was approximately three feet above the upper pit floor and approximately 200 feet in length. Plans required the berm height to be at least six feet above the upper pit floor and the berm length be at least 230 feet (see map titled "Grading and Reclamation Plan" received by the Division on March 4, 1991).

Because it was now too late in the year to seed, we requested that seeding be postponed until late fall. Since the Division had required reclamation to be completed by June 1, 1994, Mr. North asked for a Division letter giving Interstate Brick an extension for the seeding.

Several areas of the pit floor had little vegetative growth because of excessive compaction. We requested that these areas be ripped. We also requested that the site be scarified just prior to seeding.

Material for the berm improvement came from the upper pit floor. Soil was stripped from the area east of the berm and pushed onto and over the existing berm. This created a ditch east of the berm that will help in catching any material that might fall from the highwall. Pictures were taken before and after berm improvement.

When we returned in the afternoon, we measured the new berm length to be 235 feet. The new berm height was built up to about seven or eight feet above the upper pit floor. The berm outslopes were built in accordance with the approved plan. Areas of compaction had been ripped.

jb  
cc: Jerry North, Interstate Brick Company  
Walt Plumb, Plumb & Associates  
Warren Reynolds, Salt Lake County  
Lowell Braxton, DOGM  
M035003.ins







"natural sediment trap"  
at north end of site

M/035/003

M/035/003  
dozer ripping compacted areas

M/035/003  
Highway 11  
Berm before improvement

M/035/003  
Berm after construction  
view facing East







M/035/003

Berm after construction/improvement  
view facing North

M/035/003

ripped areas  
facing NW

M/035/003

Berm before improvement  
view facing South

M/035/003

deeper ripping compacted areas

M/035/003

Berm after improvement  
facing east

M/035/003

Berm after improvement  
facing north